From: Morning Consult
To: lmartin@bakersfieldpd.us
Subject: Morning Consult Tech: Week in Review & What"s Ahead
Date: Sunday, June 2, 2019 2:00:55 PM

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By Sam Sabin

Week in Review

T-Mobile and Sprint merger

- Amazon.com Inc. is interested in purchasing Boost Mobile , one of Sprint Corp.'s prepaid wireless brands, if the merger between Sprint and T-Mobile US Inc. is approved, according to two sources familiar with the matter, with one source saying Amazon is largely interested in the deal because it would subsequently gain access to the wireless carriers' network for at least six years. Amazon is also interested in acquiring any wireless spectrum T-

Mobile and Sprint are required to divest as a result of the merger, the source said.

- Justice Department officials want T-Mobile and Sprint to spin off a new full-fledged wireless carrier through its own network as a condition for gaining approval for their $26.5 billion deal, according to a person familiar with the matter, amid concerns about reducing the number of national carriers from four to three.

China-U.S. tech relations

- Huawei Technologies Co. filed a motion to expedite its lawsuit against the U.S. government , filed in March in a Texas federal court, that challenges a portion of the 2019 National Defense Authorization Act preventing government agencies from contracting with the Chinese telecommunications company or companies that use its equipment. Huawei contends that the ban is unconstitutional because it did not give the company the opportunity to appeal, and the motion could allow the company to defend itself publicly in a matter of months, rather than waiting for a trial.

- Huawei Chief Strategy Architect Dang Wenshuan said company employees have been told to cancel any technical meetings they have set up with contacts in the United States, and that American research and development workers based in the company's China headquarters were sent back to the United States two weeks ago following the Trump administration's decision to blacklist Huawei and its affiliates. The Chinese telecommunications company has also made significant changes to how its Chinese and U.S. offices communicate with one another to comply with the Department of Commerce's "entity list" requirements.

- The United States' decision to blacklist Huawei could affect about 1,200 American suppliers who work with the company, according to senior executives. Two-thirds of Huawei's 19 commercial cybersecurity tools come from U.S. suppliers, and one-fourth of its 200 million smartphones shipped last year include Qualcomm Corp. chips, according to people with knowledge of the company's operations, leaving the company vulnerable in those two areas when it loses total access to such suppliers.

- Several U.S.-based universities, foundations and pension plans are "limited

partners" in private equity funds fueling China's two largest facial recognition companies - SenseTime Group Ltd. and Megvii Technology Ltd. - whose software has been used in Chinese government-led efforts to detain more than 1 million Uighur Muslims and other ethnic minorities, according to an analysis of known private equity and venture capital investors. Princeton University, the Rockefeller Foundation and the Alaska Retirement Management Board are all among the wide-reaching list of institutions funding these companies.

Facebook Inc.

- Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) said that Facebook Inc. has proven "they were willing enablers of Russian interference" during the 2016 presidential election after the company refused to remove videos that have been slowed down to make it look like the representative is drunk. The altered videos of Pelosi have been shared on several right-wing websites, with President Donald Trump tweeting out one alleging that Pelosi stammered through a news conference.

- Canadian lawmakers extended an open-ended summons to Facebook executives Mark Zuckerberg and Sheryl Sandberg after the pair ignored a subpoena for a hearing before the country's House of Commons to discuss privacy violations and the spread of misinformation. Although Facebook sent two other senior executives in their place, lawmakers opted to make the subpoena more wide-reaching, meaning Zuckerberg and Sandberg will be served and expected to appear before the committee the next time they enter Canada.

- In response to a letter from Sen. Josh Hawley (R-Mo.), Facebook said it is unclear how the collection and storage of metadata will factor into its years-long push to focus its platform on privacy through encrypted messaging and groups, calling the effort a "work in progress," but added that it plans to collect less data and store it for a shorter amount of time. Hawley said in a statement after receiving the letter that he was "frankly shocked by Facebook's response," which said that transaction information can be used for personalization and left the door open to use collected data for advertising purposes.

Cyber and national security

- Documents provided by whistleblower Edward Snowden show the extent of the NSA's surveillance tactics, including a situation where an agency intern targeted nine people in Iraq for death or capture and detailing the agency's surveillance of satellite internet systems in the Middle East. The information comes from a review of 287 articles from SIDtoday, the internal newsletter of the NSA's Signals Intelligence Directorate.

Antitrust and competition

- Apple Inc. defended the way it operates its App Store in a blog post, saying that the company only collects commissions from developers "when a digital good or service is delivered through an app." The post follows increased pressure from regulators looking into Apple's alleged anticompetitive behavior after Spotify Technology SA filed an antitrust complaint in Europe and the U.S. Supreme Court gave the green light for a lawsuit accusing Apple of such behavior.

What's Ahead

- The House and Senate are in session.
- The House Oversight and Reform Committee hosts its second hearing on facial recognition technology on Tuesday.
- The Senate Commerce Committee will examine the state of the television and video marketplace in a hearing on Wednesday, while the House Energy and Commerce Committee will take on the same subject in a hearing on Tuesday ahead of the expiration of the Federal Communications Commission's Satellite Television Extension and Localism Act Reauthorization at the end of year.
- The FCC's next open commission meeting will be Thursday. Agenda items include clarification on the agency's new call-blocking rules and an amendment to the commission's rules on aviation safety.

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

05/31/2019

AWE USA 2019

FTC Cmr. Phillips keynote at Global Antitrust Economics Conference	9:00 am
Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board's public forum on USA Freedom Act and telephone records	10:00 am
Brookings Institution's conversation with CIA's privacy and civil liberties officer	10:30 am

06/01/2019

CircleCityCon

06/02/2019

CircleCityCon

06/03/2019

CircleCityCon

Apple's WWDC 2019	
Fiber Broadband Association's Fiber Connect conference	
New America's discussion with FCC Commissioners Mike O'Rielly and Jessica Rosenworcel on 5G deployment	12:00 pm

06/04/2019

Apple's WWDC 2019

Fiber Broadband Association's Fiber Connect conference	
FTC Commissioner Rohit Chopra's fireside chat at TACD "Consumer Protection in the Digital Sphere" public forum	9:00 am

New America's panel discussion to launch its Data & Great Power Competition	9:30 am
House Oversight Committee's second hearing in its facial recognition series	10:00 am
Senate Banking Committee's hearing on threats from China	10:00 am
House Energy and Commerce Committee's hearing on the Stelar review	10:30 am
House Small Business Committee hearing on apprenticeships and training programs for the "skills" gap	11:30 am

06/05/2019

Apple's WWDC 2019	
Fiber Broadband Association's Fiber Connect conference	
IAB's NextGen Marketing conference	
Senate Commerce Committee's hearing on the television and video marketplace	10:00 am
Technology Policy Institute's event on C-band spectrum	12:00 pm
EPIC's panel on AI and human rights	1:00 pm
Senate Judiciary Committee's second hearing on the state of patent eligibility in the U.S.	2:30 pm
The Information's D.C. happy hour	6:00 pm
EPIC's Champions of Freedom Awards, including honorees Sen. Richard Blumenthal and Rep. Jan Schakowsky	6:30 pm

06/06/2019

Apple's WWDC 2019	
FT Future of News	8:00 am
Bloomberg's "The Rise of 5G: Empowering the Next Enterprise Evolution" event	8:00 am

FCC's June Open Commission Meeting 10:30 am

06/07/2019

Apple's WWDC 2019

The Capitol Forum's conversation with former FCC Chairman and author Reed Hundt 12:15 pm

View full calendar

Introducing: Gen Z's Most Loved Brands

The definitive guide to which companies are winning over America's youngest generation.

Morning Consult Tech Top Reads

1) In Baltimore and Beyond, a Stolen N.S.A. Tool Wreaks Havoc
Nicole Perlroth and Scott Shane, The New York Times

2) Facebook Privacy Settlement Delayed by FTC Split
John D. McKinnon, The Wall Street Journal

3) Exclusive: Amazon interested in buying Boost from T-Mobile, Sprint - sources
Angela Moon, Reuters

4) U.S. Wants T-Mobile to Create New Rival Before Clearing Megadeal
David McLaughlin et al., Bloomberg

5) Huawei Revs Up Its U.S. Lawsuit, With the Media in Mind
Paul Mozur, The New York Times

6) US Universities And Retirees Are Funding The Technology Behind China's Surveillance State
Ryan Mac et al., BuzzFeed News

7) Nancy Pelosi: Doctored Videos Show Facebook 'Willing Enablers' of Russians in 2016
Marisa Lagos, KQED News

8) Bing's Not the Laughingstock of Technology Anymore
Shira Ovide, Bloomberg

9) How Comcast, Charter Could Become Winners in T-Mobile Merger Fight
Scott Moritz et al., Bloomberg

10) Meltdown Showed Extent of NSA Surveillance - And Other Tales From Hundreds of Intelligence Documents
Margot Williams, The Intercept

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